

know how we'll get through the session if we change the rules, but we do. We both change and we get by and we accomplish our purposes. It is not time to maintain the status quo. I was somewhat interested in Senator Maurstad's comments that the cities had not received any additional state aid since 1978. I haven't been in the Legislature since 1978, but I've been here long enough to know that we provide a variety of kinds of state aid, what I would characterize as state aid, to municipalities. They have access to the sales tax. They have access to keno. They get the bingo tax, they get gas tax. They have a fund that is expressly set aside and I acknowledge that it never did what it was supposed to. It didn't do that for the cities and it didn't do it for the counties to replace the revenues that at one time would have been raised by personal property tax. They have access to MIRE and I'm probably leaving out a bunch of them. Senator Hartnett, I think the last time we discussed this issue, cataloged some of the resources that are available to cities and municipalities. Those resources are vastly different than the resources that are available to other political subdivisions in the state. Some of them are in the same counties, have access to gas tax. Counties have access to property tax. Schools have access to property tax and a much larger state aid pool. You can work out some of the other differences if you want. Other political subdivisions don't have access to those kinds of revenue sources. It isn't unusual that we don't have a large pool of direct state aid dollars that we appropriate each year for municipalities. We've allowed them access to other resources, resources that we have denied to other political subdivisions. I have listened to Senator Schellpeper and others as they're describing the plight of small communities in their district. I live in a small community. It's under 300 people. All of the streets are paved. We have a sewer system that is in very good condition. We have a city water system that is not even chlorinated because the water that we use is pure enough and clean enough that we don't have to do that. That city would be affected by LB 1114. It has a levy that is in excess of 45 cents. But I am confident that that small...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: ...that small community that I live in will be able to meet the constraints of 1114. Now, I have other communities in my district that I am not so confident about